

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for increasing the level of endogenous growth hormone in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a growth hormone secretagogue, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the level of endogenous growth hormone in the mammal is greater than the level resulting from an equivalent dose of the growth hormone secretagogue alone.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the mammal is selected from the group consisting of humans, horses, cattle, dogs, cats, rats, mice, pigs, goats, sheep, rabbits and monkeys.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the mammal is a human.
4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the human is an elderly human.
5. A method for elevating the plasma concentration of growth hormone in a mammal in need thereof by administering a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a growth hormone secretagogue, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
6. A method for the treatment, control, amelioration, or reduction of risk of a disease or disorder associated with growth hormone deficiency in a mammal in need thereof by administering a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a growth hormone secretagogue, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the disease or disorder is growth retardation associated with growth hormone deficiency.
8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the disease or disorder is a metabolic disorder associated with growth hormone deficiency.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein disease or disorder is an injury, trauma, burn, a wound in need of healing, or a patient recovering from surgery.

5 10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a growth hormone secretagogue, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.